



MEMORANDUM
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

DATE: March 31, 2006

TO: Honorable Chairman Joe A. Martinez
Board of County Commissioners

FROM: 
Carlos Alvarez, Mayor
Miami-Dade County

SUBJECT: Ordinance Amending Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance – Follow up

As you know, in a March 13, 2006 memorandum, I proposed amendments to Miami-Dade County's Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics ordinance that would increase the financial disclosure requirements of our elected officials and high-level professional staff. The intent of the draft ordinance was to:

- Extend the financial disclosure requirement to a third party for elected officials and high-level executives prior to taking any official action that directly affects said client or customer.
- Require Department Directors and other specified personnel to annually file the state's Form 1 "Statement of Financial Interest."
- Subject financial disclosure statements to random auditing by the Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust.
- Post financial disclosure statements on-line in an easily accessible and searchable database.

I strongly believe that to ensure public confidence is sustained and guarantee the highest levels of transparency in government, we must demand the highest ethical standards of our public servants. To demonstrate that we are truly accountable to our citizenry, we must take any steps necessary to prevent even the mere perception of conflicts of interest.

In your unique position as Chairperson of the Board of County Commissioners (Board), I offered this proposed legislation for your sponsorship. As this ordinance is a work-in-progress, I am looking forward to incorporating any amendments from you or any other members of the Board. So that we can advance this legislation, I would like to meet with you regarding this matter. Please contact my office at (305) 375-2202 to schedule a meeting at your earliest convenience.

c: Honorable Members, Board of County Commissioners
Honorable Harvey Ruvin, Clerk of Courts
George Burgess, County Manager
Murray A. Greenberg, County Attorney
Kay Sullivan, Director, Clerk of the Board
Robert Meyers, Executive Director, Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust